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For Immediate Release:

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SCHAKOWSKY ANNOUNCES SUPPORT FOR THE IRAQ ACCOUNTABILITY ACT

WASHINGTON, DC--U.S. Representative Jan Schakowsky (D-IL), founding member of the Out of Iraq Caucus, announced today that she will support the Democratic supplemental appropriations bill for fiscal year 2008.

Rep. Schakowsky's letter is attached below:

March 21, 2007

Dear Friend:

I am writing to tell you why I made the difficult decision to support the Democratic supplemental appropriations bill for fiscal year 2008.

As you know, I am a founding and active member of the Out of Iraq Caucus, someone who identifies closely with the members of the Out of Iraq Caucus who have been vocal in their opposition to the war in Iraq.

In October 2002, our Speaker Nancy Pelosi argued strongly against voting for war. As the Whip at the time, she was the only member of the House to do so.

This week, Speaker Pelosi, David Obey and Jack Murtha will bring to the floor a measure that, for the first time, would require the President to report to Congress on the progress of the war in Iraq.

President Bush's reaction to the measure reinforces this view. He and all the administration and Congress have been silent on the issue.

In other words, this vote has the potential of drawing a clear line between those who want to stay indefin

Like many of you, I have voted against past supplementals, defense appropriations, and any method of

But the question being posed was not whether we should seek 2008 Iraq withdrawal, as the "Dem

When the Senate failed to pass a timeline bill, the headline was, "Senate rejects Iraq pullout plan." I don't

As progressives we have a choice to describe this vote as a partial victory -- or as a defeat for our positio

The vote this week could very well be viewed as the beginning of the end of this tragic chapter in our his

Regardless of your decision, I know it is based on your heartfelt belief on how best to stop the killing, an

Sincerely,

Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress